

Our Docket No: 42390P11369

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Chen et al.) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No: Not Yet Assigned) Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: An Active Secondary Exposure Mask)
To Manufacture Integrated Circuits)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form PTO-1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Express Mail® mailing label number: EL 899343181 US

I hereby certify that I am causing the above-referenced correspondence to be deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated below and that this paper or fee has been addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 4, 2002

Date of Deposit

Krista Mathieson

Name Of Person Mailing Correspondence

Krista Mathieson

Signature

January 4, 2002

Date Signed

Docket No.: 42390P11369

Express Mail Label No.: EL 899343181 US



The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☒ (a) within three months of the filing date of the patent application, (b) within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the international application, or (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (d) before the mailing date of a First Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
- ☐ **after** (a), (b), (c) or (d) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, and includes:
- ☐ the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below).
- ☐ the fee of \$180 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).
- ☐ **after** the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, and includes the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below), a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement (see "Petition" below), and the Petition Fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) (see "Fees" below).

Copies Of The References

- ☒ Copies of all references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith. Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).
- ☐ A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ All references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 were previously identified in the parent application of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status (<i>check one</i>)		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1.				
2.				
3.				

Other Applications

☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the following U.S. patent application(s):

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status (check one)		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED

Certification

☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application or, to the knowledge of the attorney signing after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Petition

☐ The undersigned attorney hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider this Information Disclosure Statement and the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

Fees

- ☒ No fee is owed by the applicant(s).
☐ The **IDS Fee of \$180.00** under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed herewith.
☐ The **Petition Fee of \$130.00** set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed herewith.

Method Of Payment Of Fees

- ☐ Attached is a check in the amount of \$ _____.
☐ Charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 in the amount of \$. (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose.)

Authorization To Charge Additional Fees

- ☐ If any additional fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose.)

Instructions As To Overpayment

- ☐ Credit Account No. 02-2666.
☐ Refund

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: JAN 4, 2002

Brent E. Vecchia
Brent E. Vecchia
Reg. 48,011

12400 Wilshire Blvd., 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980
(303) 740-6962 (facsimile)

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO (Modified) (use as many sheets as necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 42390P11369	Application Number: Not Yet Assigned
	First Named Inventor: Chen et al.	
	Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith	

JC903 U.S. PTO
 10/040772
 01/04/02

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Code ²	Kind (If known)			
				Langston	5,503,959	
				DeWolf et al.	5,995,912	
				Wang et al.	5,858,580	
				Pierrat et al.	6,120,952	
				Lin	6,120,953	
				Wu et al.	6,071,658	
				Pierrat et al.	6,218,089	
				Hsu	6,194,104	
				Wang et al.	6,228,539	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³ Code ⁵	Number ⁴	Kind (If known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO (Modified) (use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket No.: 42390P11369	Application Number: Not Yet Assigned
		First Named Inventor: Chen et al.	
		Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith	
OTHER ART - NO PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation ²
		WARREN GROBMAN AND YAO-TING WANG. Practical IC Design in the Subwavelength Regime. Web Page [online]. Integrated System Design Magazine. Posted 01/30/01. [Retrieved on May 25, 2001] Retrieved on the Internet: <URL: http://www.isdmag.com/story/OEG20010130S0098 . Pages 1-8.	
		Integrated System Design Magazine - isdmag.com. Figures 1-4. Web Page [online]. [Retrieved on May 25, 2001] Retrieved on the Internet: <URL: http://www.isdmag.com/editorial/2001/coverstoryfigures0102.html . Pages 1-4.	
		DR. J. TRACY WEED and DR. LINARD KARKLIN. Dark-Field Double Exposure PSM Technique: A Manufacturing Approach to Phase Shifting. Semiconductors: SubMicron Focus: Double Exposure. Web Page [online]. Canon U.S.A. Inc. [Retrieved on May 29, 2001] Retrieved on the Internet: <URL: http://www.usa.canon.com/indtech/semicondeq/news_springs51_4.html . Pages 1-9.	
		KENJI SAITOH, MASANOBU HASEGAWA, AKIYOSHI SUZUKI and MINORU YOSHII. IDEAL Way to Extend Optical Lithography. Semiconductors: SubMicron Focus: Aberrations. Web Page [online]. Canon U.S.A. Inc. [Retrieved on May 29, 2001] Retrieved on the Internet: <URL: http://www.usa.canon.com/indtech/semicondeq/news_ideal.html . Pages 1-9.	
		STAN CHOW, ANDREW B. KAHNG AND MAJID SARRAFZADEH. Modern Physical Design: Algorithm Technology Methodology (Part V). ICCAD Tutorial, November 9, 2000. [online] [Retrieved on June 22, 2001] Retrieved on the Internet: <URL: http://www.vlsicad.cs.ucla.edu/ICCAD00TUTORIAL/part5.pdf . Pages 1- 44.	
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.